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stateroom and meals. Reduction for round-trip tickets. For further information address

JOHN BIRD, Agent Office on Wharfbeat foot of Chestnut St., 27. LOUIS, & HUNTING BEARS.

California Nimred Makes the Business Pay.

"If a man is after bears for profit," says a Calfornia hunter, "it is better to trap them than to hunt them. When a bear finds itself caught by the leg in a heavy steel trap it tries to get to a rock, against which it can dash and pound the trap in an effort to break it, and there are instances in which bears have broken traps in that way. Cases of bears gnawing or tearing their legs out of traps are known, and one of the longest bear chases I ever heard of was after a three legged bear, one of whose legs had been left

in a trap.
"In Victor Valley, five years ago last August, I set three bear traps of heavy steel, and the next day I found heavy steel, and the next day I found that all of them had been sprung by somebody's throwing chunks of wood on the springs. My partner and I studied up that thing for a long time, and we found that an old she bear that had been badly wounded in a similar trap had come there and had deliberately sprung our traps. We took such fancy to that old mother bear that we did not go on a hunt for her, but moved our camp several miles further in the mountains.

"There wre several items of money making from bear hunts nowadays that did not amount to anything thirty years ago. A good sized black bear, killed in the fall of the year, is now worth \$45 to \$75. It all depends upon how the hunter takes care of the carcass and markets the salable parts. The skin, if it is full, glossy, and heavy with fat, will bring from \$20 to \$30. I have sold some skins in San Francisco for \$45 each and the furrier has made them up with glass eyes and fancy woolen trimming interugs that sold at \$125 each. The grease from a bear, if properly tried out so as to make it pure and sweet. grease from a bear, if properly tried out so as to make it pure and sweet, will bring from #8 to #10 anywhere on the coast. The miners buy it in great quantities for cooking and rheumatism, bruises and wounds. Five gallon cans of the stuff are sent to New York and London for hair preparations. Then there are the claws that are bought by the hundreds by dealers in curios in towns dreds by dealers in curios in towns where the Eastern tourists flock in the winter season. There is no fixed value on bear claws, because some people wouldn't have them for gifts, while others want them for orna-ments at home or at museums and will pay big money for them. I gen-erally get about \$1.50 a pair for my bear claws, but have sometimes gos \$3 or \$4 each for them .

"A good fat bear that is killed so near a town or ranch camp that the meat can be cut up and sold there while it is fresh, is worth anywhere from \$4 to \$7 as meat alone. There are thousands of the old timers among the mountains and in the mining camps of California, that would rather have bear steak than any ducks and quall that were ever bagged. I have sold the bones of four of the bears that I have killed to persons who wanted them for mounting in museums, but usually we left the bones and about 200 pounds of the fiesh and entrails lie on the ground where we cut the brutes up. It takes three or four days to get a big bear thoroughly butchered and its grease tried out.

Do Gulls Follow Ships?

On a late trip of the steamers plycisco the question came up among the passengers as to whether the gulls which appeared around the ship each morning were the same birds as had been with the ship on the day previous. To test the mat-ter a line and fish hook were procured and with a bait of salt pork the fishing for a sea gull was commenced. The first cast of the line was successful, a big gray bird swooping down on the bait. He was hauled aboard and found to be uninjured, the hook having caught in one of the glands of the beak, from which it was readily loosened. After detaching the hook a strip of red flannel was brought and carefully tied around the gull's left leg by one of the seamen of the steamer, the bird being then turned loose. Circling for a moment in the air, the gull started toward the distant blue streak which denoted the coast line, and it was generally allowed that each day brought a new contingent of gulls to follow the steamer, and pick up the waste scraps from the table; but on coming on deck after breakfast the next morning there was the flannel-bedecked gull to be seen, the most elamorous of all the birds. To test the gull's reasoning power, if it had

An Old Pioneer's Plea.

strike for it.

any, the same line and bait was drifted astern, the gull caught the

day before being one of the first to

A curious scene was presented at the meeting of the Yosemite Valley Commissioners in San Francisco, Cal., when Old John Hutchins, the pioneer of the famous valley, with tears streaming down his face, begged for the privilege of living until his death in the cabin which until his death in the cabin which
he built over thirty years ago and by
the side of which his wife and daughter are buried. The Commissioners
had leased the cabin and five acres
around it to the neighboring hotel,
but the old man's tears moved them
and they gave the use of the house
and one acre of ground to him for
the remainder of his life.

A Preventive of Scalping.

A San Francisco (Cal.) photographer claims to have completed a device by which every railroad ticket may be made to bear the photograph of the original purchaser, as a preventive of scalping. The whole process of taking the picture, developing the negative, and printing the portrait on a portion of the ticket can be done, he says, while the purchaser is paying for his ticket, or in one minute at the longest. The apparatus is elaborate, but the inventor thinks that it is infallible, and that railway companies ought to device by which every railroad ticket and that railway companies ought to be willing to pay a good price for a perfect method of preventing scalping by making tickets nontransferable.

Utah, including the improvements made by the Mormons, is worth \$24,-775, 279.